

Praying mantis facts:

Approximately 200 praying mantis babies can hatch from one egg case.

The Mantis sheds its skin several times during the spring and summer.

The mantis is the only known insect that can turn its head, and look over its shoulder.



A mantis has reflexes that can react 2 times faster than a housefly.

Mantis can grow up to 5 inches long, and only eat other bugs, they do not eat plants.

These ferocious looking praying mantis actually make great pets. With plenty to eat they usually will not stray far.

If handled properly, mantis will not bite. Just don't pick them up behind their forelegs.

Praying Mantis Live Stages:

The female deposits her eggs in the fall in a frothy secretion that hardens and protects the eggs from severe winter climates.

The female will then die during the cold winter frost.

The egg "cases" are attached to small branches and will contain 200-500 eggs.

In the spring, after several weeks of warm weather, the young mantis emerge from between the tiny flaps of the egg case.

They will hang from the egg case on silken threads for about 2 hours while they dry out.



Then quickly the very small mantis will disperse into the vegetation, leaving little evidence that they have hatched. (The egg case will not change in appearance)

